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6 February 1951

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO : Chief, TRD  
Personnel Officer  
EXO/OSO  
CII/OPC

FROM : Security Officer

SUBJECT : Security Clearances for TRD Instructors and Trainees

25X1

Reference is made to a memorandum dated 5 January 1951 from the Chief, TRD, to I&SS requesting priority security clearances for TRD instructors and trainees. In accordance with a discussion with the Chief, TRD, concerning this matter it is felt that this problem can be resolved by utilizing an x-type Secret clearance for training purposes which would involve the making available of classified information through Secret to the instructors and trainees concerned.

It is understood that the first two months of TRD Staff training can be accomplished by utilizing classified information of Secret and below. The third month of training involves the use of Top Secret information. In order to expedite clearances to meet the training problem I&SS will grant x-type clearances for the first two months of training. During this period of two months training I&SS will be conducting the necessary additional investigation which will permit a full clearance for Top Secret to enable the trainee to start the third month of training which requires a full clearance.

I&SS will require approximately one month's time after the receipt of PHS forms to conduct the necessary investigation to permit the granting of an x-type clearance. Upon completion of the necessary investigation for an x-type clearance a provisional clearance to EOD will be issued by I&SS. As soon as the trainee arrives in Washington and after EOD he will be granted an x-type clearance to permit his entrance into the two months training period. At the end of the two months training the field investigation will have been completed which will permit full clearance to Top Secret training for the third month.

I&SS is agreeable to utilizing this type of clearance for covert training by TRD for agent type personnel if agreeable to the operating branch and TRD. It is recognized that covert training is tailored to meet the specific requirements of the mission to which the agent is assigned. A security factor in each case is the problem of training an agent on a specific mission in a designated area before the full investigation has been received and whether it is desirable for the agent to have this advance knowledge. Determination as to whether or not a clearance through Secret can be utilized for covert training purposes must be made by the branch and TRD. The scope of investigation for this type of clearance will be the same as for staff x-type clearances and will include a polygraph examination.

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Upon completion of the limited investigation by I&SS, which will require at least a month, a temporary security clearance for covert training can be issued by I&SS. The covert trainee can then be brought to Washington where upon arrival he will be given a polygraph examination in a covert facility available to I&SS. At this time the contract for services can be arranged and the trainee would then be available for covert training. It is understood that covert training varies from four to six weeks. Upon receipt of the original request for clearance of the covert trainee, the field investigation will be initiated and will be completed prior to the time the trainee completes his covert training. At this time the trainee will then have been fully cleared and can be utilized on his proposed mission.

It is recognized that the problem on the covert side will be more difficult to handle; however, it is felt that the security risk involved will be considerably minimized on the basis of the limited investigation and polygraph examination which will provide from the security standpoint adequate coverage on the trainee concerned.

If the above is acceptable the request to Personnel should specify that the individual is to be utilized under x-type clearance for staff training purposes. For the covert trainees the requesting branch should specify to I&SS that an x-type clearance is desired for covert training purposes.

SHEFFIELD EDWARDS  
Colonel, GSC

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